

II. REMARKS

Before the amendments made herein, claims 1 to 8 and 10 to 20 were pending. Claims 10 to 20 are canceled herein without prejudice and claims 28 to 30 added. Accordingly, after the amendments are entered, claims 1 to 8 and 28 to 30 will be pending.

A. Regarding the amendments.

New claims 28 to 30 find support, for example, from claims 21 to 23, as originally filed. Accordingly, no issue of new matter arises.

B. Regarding the restriction requirement.

The Action restricts the claims into 21 groups. Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction only with respect to Groups 1 and 2.

More specifically, the restriction Action alleges that Groups 1 and 2 "do not share a special technical feature." However, this is not true.

Both groups are directed to methods of identifying agents that inhibit cancer wherein the agents bind to SEQ ID NOS: 6 or 13. As disclosed in the subject application, these sequences are the two transcript variants of the ZPK gene. As explained in the application: "These two variants are identical for most of the sequence with the exception of a 99 base pair insertion in the coding region for variant 1,

resulting in a 33 amino acids insertion." See, for example, page 54, lines 6 to 15 and Figure 26.

In view of the tremendous level of identity between the two sequences, Applicants respectfully request that Groups 1 and 2 be rejoined.

Nevertheless, to respond completely, Applicants elect Group I for examination, and further elect SEQ ID NO: 6 as the species.

Claims 1 to 8, as well as new claims 28 to 30, encompass this election.

CONCLUSION

In light of the Remarks herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are now in condition for allowance and requests a notice to this effect. Should the Examiner have any questions, he is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 9, 2007

David I. Spolter

/David I. Spolter
Registration No. 36,933
Telephone No. (732) 709-5117

LAW OFFICE OF DAVID SPOLTER
Attn. - G. Singer
30 South Adelaide Ave., #5M
Highland Park, NJ 08904